

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
25 April 2002 (25.04.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 02/032414 A3**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61K 38/21**, A61P 31/12
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/32434
- (22) International Filing Date: 16 October 2001 (16.10.2001)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
60/241,557 18 October 2000 (18.10.2000) US
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SCHERING CORPORATION** [US/US]; Patent Department - K-6-1 1990, 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, NJ 07033-0530 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **ALBRECHT, Janice** [US/US]; 1308 Temple Grove Court, Winter Park, FL 32789 (US).
- (74) Agent: **HOFFMAN, Thomas, D.**; Schering-Plough Corporation, Patent Department-K-6-1 1990, 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, NJ 07033-0530 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KG, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Declarations under Rule 4.17:**  
— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations  
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only
- Published:**  
— with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
3 April 2003
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 02/032414 A3

(54) Title: RIBAVIRIN-PEGYLATED INTERFERON ALFA HCV COMBINATION THERAPY

(57) Abstract: The use of ribavirin and/or pegylated interferon alfa for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C infection comprising a therapeutically weight-effective amount of ribavirin and a therapeutically effective amount of pegylated, e.g. pegylated interferon-alfa-2b or -2a, is disclosed.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 01/32434

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 A61K38/21 A61P31/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, BIOSIS, EMBASE, CHEM ABS Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 956 861 A (SCHERING) 17 November 1999 (1999-11-17) claims 1,4,5,7,9,10 page 12 tables 1,8,14	1-4,6-15
X	WO 00 37110 A (SCHERING) 29 June 2000 (2000-06-29) cited in the application claims 1,7-9,19,20	1-15
X	WO 97 16204 A (SCHERING) 9 May 1997 (1997-05-09) claims 1-5,8,9,12-14 page 8, line 14-22	1-3,6-8
	--- -/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 December 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/12/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Peeters, J

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 01/32434

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00 37096 A (SCHERING) 29 June 2000 (2000-06-29) claims 1,11-17 page 13, line 22-29 page 14, line 12-21	1-9
X	A.ERHARDT E.A.: "Therapie und Diagnostik der chronischen Hepatitis C" VERDAUUNGSKRANKHEITEN, vol. 18, no. 3, 2000, pages 123-133, XP008011268 page 126, column 2 page 127, column 1	1-3,6,7

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 01/32434

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 956861	A	17-11-1999	AT 216591 T AU 3860099 A BR 9910505 A CN 1309568 T DE 69901321 D1 DK 956861 T3 EP 1213029 A1 EP 0956861 A1 ES 2172288 T3 HU 0103423 A2 JP 2002515453 T NO 20005755 A PT 956861 T SK 17102000 A3 WO 9959621 A1 US 6472373 B1	15-05-2002 06-12-1999 02-01-2001 22-08-2001 29-05-2002 01-07-2002 12-06-2002 17-11-1999 16-09-2002 28-01-2002 28-05-2002 12-01-2001 30-08-2002 10-05-2001 25-11-1999 29-10-2002
WO 0037110	A	29-06-2000	AU 2157000 A EP 1140143 A2 WO 0037110 A2	12-07-2000 10-10-2001 29-06-2000
WO 9716204	A	09-05-1997	AU 7473096 A CA 2236591 A1 CA 2329474 A1 EP 0858343 A1 JP 2000507917 T WO 9716204 A1 US 6461605 B1 US 6177074 B1 US 5908621 A	22-05-1997 09-05-1997 09-05-1997 19-08-1998 27-06-2000 09-05-1997 08-10-2002 23-01-2001 01-06-1999
WO 0037096	A	29-06-2000	AU 2158000 A EP 1140142 A2 JP 2002532556 T WO 0037096 A2	12-07-2000 10-10-2001 02-10-2002 29-06-2000